U.S. Ambassador in Romania announces setting up of Romanian-American foundation

U.S. Ambassador to Bucharest, Mark Gitenstein, on Wednesday, March 24, at the opening of the works of the General Assembly of the American Chamber of Commerce in Romania, announced the setting up of a Romanian-American foundation, with 150 million dollars to be available for encouraging development of new ideas in Romania.

“Last night, I announced the setting up of a new foundation, the American-Romanian foundation, a gift worth 150 million dollars from the American people to encourage development of new ideas throughout Romania, especially outside Bucharest, in the small and medium-sized towns. We want to focus on education reform, on entrepreneurship, and on community development (…)

This amount comes in addition to the 600 million dollars that American taxpayers had already granted to this country, and which we consider a very good investment,” said the U.S. Ambassador, who attended the event that enjoyed also the presence of President Traian Basescu. The U.S. Ambassador also voiced hope Romanian authorities will show their support for this foundation.

He also said that, in the opinion of the U.S. Embassy, the open dialogue between businessmen and the government is very important for the development of a free market and of the democracy. Gitenstein underlined the importance of reforms and voiced hope the new Board of Directors of the American Chamber of Commerce in Romania will continue the line of dialogue with Romanian authorities, with the U.S. Embassy to continue to facilitate this cooperation.